

Responses to Recommendations

ZAMBIA

Review in the Working Group: 9 May 2008

Adoption in the Plenary: 12 June 2008

Zambia's responses to recommendations:

In the Report of the Working Group:	In the Addendum:	During the plenary:	Recommendations pending responses:	Summary:
19 REC accepted; 3 rejected; 11 pending	Out of the 11 pending: 8 accepted; 3 rejected; 1 pending (second part of REC n°8 § 59)	No additional information provided	None	Accepted: 27 Rejected: 6 No clear position: 0 Pending: 1

List of recommendations contained in Section II of the Report of the Working Group A/HRC/8/43:

“58. The recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue have been examined by the Republic of Zambia and the recommendations listed below enjoy the support of Zambia:

- 1. That further measures be put in place to ensure that the cultural and traditional beliefs practiced in customary law applied by the Local Courts do not lead to discrimination against women (United Kingdom);
- 2. To strengthen its efforts on gender issues (Algeria);
- 3. To systematically and continuously integrate a gender perspective in the follow-up process to the review (Slovenia);
- 4. To take measures to improve the situation of widows and girl orphans, including by ensuring protection of inheritance through enforcement of legislative provisions (Canada);
- 5. To train in human rights judges working in the local courts, administering Zambian customary law, in particular, in respect to the human rights of women and children and a gender perspective and to promote a flexible and effective system of reviewing sentences, so as to guarantee the due process of law (Mexico);

- 6. That all possible measures be taken to eliminate torture and other inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including that all mechanisms such as the PPCA and Victim Support Unit are fully implemented (Denmark);
- 7. To ensure that each case of torture or ill-treatment by police officers is seriously investigated, prosecuted and punished and that adequate reparation should be granted to victims (Denmark);
- 8. To continue improving the living conditions of detainees (Algeria) and ensure its prioritization (Ireland);
- 9. To strengthen the Human Rights Commission with a status in accordance with the Paris Principles, particularly with respect to human resources and independence (France);
- 10. That juvenile courts and justices be established to enhance access to justice of children in conformity with their specific needs (Austria);
- 11. That a strategy of assistance and prevention be developed for street children in order to protect and guarantee their rights, involving community-based associations and other civil society organizations (The Netherlands);
- 12. To continue with its efforts to strengthen the rights of the child and protect them even further, in particular, the necessary resources should be earmarked so as to protect the weakest segments of the population, above all the disabled persons, and assistance should be requested from UNICEF in that regard (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya);
- 13. To continue its efforts to improve its educational system and seek international assistance in this regard (Algeria);
- 14. To develop a national strategy for human rights education in the school system in accordance with the Plan of Action 2005-2009 of the World Programme for Human Rights Education, including the review and revision of curricula and textbooks, the training of teachers, and the practice of human rights in the school community (Italy);
- 15. To continue its efforts in economic, social and cultural rights to further build upon the progress it has already made (Cuba);
- 16. To consider developing a strategy that ensures that the experiences of community practitioners are taken into account in the development of its national strategies to improve health standards in maternal neo-natal and child health (New Zealand);
- 17. To improve access to anti-retroviral treatment for vulnerable groups, including women (Canada);
- 18. To share the experiences and good practices which have enabled Zambia to obtain significant results in the field of education, particularly the access of girls to education and training (Cuba);
- 19. To accelerate its efforts to finalize the national anti-corruption policy and mechanisms for monitoring its implementation (South Africa).

59. The following recommendations will be examined by Zambia which will provide responses in due time. The response of Zambia to these recommendations will be included in the outcome report adopted by the Human Rights Council at its eighth session:

- 1. To interpret statutory law and to set enforcement mechanisms in a way that protects unionized and non-unionized workers equally and without discrimination (Slovenia);
- 2. That the prohibition of discrimination be strengthened in the context of the current constitutional-review and furthermore that specific legislation be adopted to ensure the full implementation of CEDAW on the ground (Austria);
- 3. To consider adhering to the optional protocol to CEDAW (Brazil);

- 4. To transform the de facto moratorium on death penalty into a de jure moratorium (France, United Kingdom, Chile);
- 5. To sign the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture at the earliest possible opportunity (United Kingdom);
- 6. To consider taking steps to change the Defamation Act in the Criminal Code in order to broaden the space for exercising the freedom of expression (Norway);
- 7. The swift adoption of the bill on freedom of information (Norway);
- 8. That international treaties adhered to by Zambia enjoy full implementation and that their incorporation in domestic law be accelerated (Democratic Republic of the Congo)
 - and to report to the Human Rights Council about further concrete steps that will be taken to implement the ratified international conventions in domestic law (Netherlands);
- 9. To consider ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Mexico);
- 10. To take all appropriate measures to improve the situation of women's rights on the ground and retain in the draft Constitution currently under discussion both the provision on equality before the law regardless of sex and the provision prohibiting any law, culture, custom or tradition that undermine the dignity, welfare, interests or status of women (Italy, Canada);
- 11. To continue the reform of the Criminal Code in relation to the prosecution of journalists (Ireland).

60. The recommendations noted in the report in paragraph 19 (a) and (b) and paragraph 22 (b) above did not enjoy the support of Zambia.”

- Paragraph 19 (a) (Canada): “Recommended that it be amended to decriminalize same-sex activity between consenting adults”
- (b): “Zambia develop programmes to respond to the HIV/AIDS related needs of sexually active gay men”
- Paragraph 22 (b) (the Netherlands): “To strive to amend its Criminal Code to decriminalize same-sex activity between consenting adults in accordance with the recommendation of the Human Rights Committee“

Disclaimer: This classification is not official and is based on United Nations documents and webcast. For questions and/or comments, please write to info@upr-info.org